

PRINCE PIGNATELLI WINS A \$60,000,000 HEIRESS

Miss Mary Duke, Daughter of the Tobacco Trust King, Adds a New Kind of Matrimonial Alliance to the Remarkable Family Collection

THE Duke family, who control the Tobacco Trust, and grow richer every time you light your pipe, cigar or cigarette, are noted for the many interesting and curious marriages they have made.

Now they are going to add a new kind of marriage to the family collection. Miss Mary Duke, only daughter of Benjamin N. Duke, has become engaged to Prince Ludovic Pignatelli d'Aragon, a distant cousin of the King of Spain, and a member of one of the oldest noble families in Europe.

This will be the first marriage of the international variety as yet contracted by the Duke family. They are in a position to afford such an alliance, for it is estimated that Miss Mary Duke alone is heiress to \$60,000,000.

The father of Miss Mary Duke is Benjamin N. Duke, who is the principal member of the Duke family after his brother, James B. Duke, who actually built up the Tobacco Trust as we know it to-day—a stronger octopus than ever, since the United States Government tried to cut it up.

Brother Brodie L. Duke is the most marrying member of the family. He has done it four times.

Brodie L. Duke gained most of his celebrity while trying to get free from his third wife, Mrs. Alice L. Webb. After a grand spree at a hotel in New York, Mr. Duke and Mrs. Webb hastily stepped around the corner and got married. Before the honeymoon was over Mr. Duke's relatives put him in a sanitarium.

According to information they collected, his bride had shot at a previous husband named Murat Masterson, because he criticized the way she kept house. She had married and left a Pittsburg hotel keeper named Powell. She had done many things not calculated to make married life one grand sweet song.

Although she was a fine shot and rather addicted to strenuous methods, her assaults on Brodie L. Duke were mostly in the form of promissory notes and other obligations to pay.

Mr. Duke, who was sixty-two years old at the time, secured a divorce, after protesting many times that he loved his little wife. He had only obtained his freedom a few months, however, when he married Miss Wylanta A. Roschelle, a girl of twenty-two, of Washington. The other members of the Duke family were nearly as much opposed to this marriage as to the preceding one.

It is hard to understand why James B. Duke, the big brother, should be so critical about brother Brodie's marriages, for he has done a good deal of marrying on his own account.

A good many years ago James B. Duke married Mrs. Lillian N. McCredy, who had previously obtained a divorce from her husband. She accused him—husband McCredy—of treating her in a cruel manner, while he complained that she was carrying on a lively flirtation with a young Cuban. She obtained a limited divorce from her husband, and after his death she married James B. Duke.

Their happiness was, however, short-lived, for after nine months he sued his wife for divorce. He produced a batch of very entertaining love letters alleged to have been written to his wife by an elderly admirer named Major Frank T. Huntoon, while she retorted that he spent too much time and spent it too convulsively in the society of two band maidens named Maggie and Mary Smith. Mrs. Duke's grievances, however, must have been considerably soothed by the \$500,000 which Mr. Duke settled on her before severing his relations with her.

Before the divorce proceedings were quite concluded, it became noised abroad that Mr. Duke was about to take another bride. When the suit was over, the last wife, Mrs. Lillian Duke said:

"I have no longer a vestige of hard feeling against Mr. Duke, and hope, with all my heart that the new Mrs. Duke will find more of happiness in her married life than fell to my lot."

Mrs. Duke's blithesome mood contrasted curiously with one she had displayed a few weeks before, when she was still fighting the divorce and declaring that she was a victim of oppression more cruel than any ever exercised by an Oriental Sultan, that she had been crushed by predatory wealth and that she had been treated as no good and conscientious American wife had ever been treated before.

Her change of attitude appeared to be attributable to a settlement that had exercised a soothing and softening effect upon her mind and temperament. She declined to go into details on this point but smiled happily at the thought.

"I am told that the new Mrs. Duke is quite lovely," pursued the ex-wife. "I hope she will make Mr. Duke a good wife. It is refreshing to hear of another marriage in contrast to the many divorces of the season. As long as the marriages exceed the divorces in number we may hope for society."

"I really think there must be a divorce germ that has been especially active this year. Wouldn't it be a splendid thing if the scientists could only discover this elusive microbe? It would certainly rank with the most important achievements of modern science."

Hardly had Mr. Duke gained his freedom than it became known that he was about to wed Mrs. William H. Inman, described as "the most beautiful widow of the South." He carried out this intention and took his bride to live on his famous estate of twenty-five hundred acres at Somerville, N. J., which is a rival of the establishment built by King Louis XIV. at Versailles. They are not confined to this one place, however, for Mr. Duke has palaces and estates in other parts of the world. Just now he is in England establishing the Tobacco Trust more firmly on its feet there.

His brother, Benjamin N. Duke, who was treasurer of the American Tobacco Company, seems to be one of the least marrying members of the family. That is why he will have so much money to leave to his daughter, Miss Mary Duke, who is going to marry Prince Pignatelli d'Aragon. She has one brother, Angier Duke, and as their uncle, James B. Duke, has no children, it is reasonable to expect that they will inherit most of his fortune, as well as their father's.

The growth of the Duke fortune is one of the Aladdin's lamp wonders of American commerce. Old Washington Duke, the grandfather of the richest heiress owned a 300-acre farm near Durham, N. C. At the end of the war he had literally not a cent, and Sherman's army had passed over his farm. Then he went to work and grew tobacco. His son, James B., had great energy as a salesman, and he sold packets of the family tobacco all over the country. He was the first to put them into cardboard boxes, and the first to make them by machinery. Finally he organized the American Tobacco Trust, of which the Duke family owned 30 per cent of the stock. It



Arms of the Ancient and Noble Family of Prince Pignatelli d'Aragon



And Here is a Suggested Coat of Arms for the Duke Family to Match the Pignatelli Scutcheon



Miss Mary Duke in the Best Coat of Arms of the United States.

Man's Air-Breathing Fish Ancestors

By Sir Ray Lankester, K. C. B., F. R. S.

LIVING evidence of the known connection between water-breathing fishes and all air-breathing vertebrate animals, including man, exists in the lung fishes of Africa and South America, specimens of which are shown in the fish gallery at the Natural History Museum.

The living lung-fishes are frequently left in their native marshes without water, and those of South America encase themselves in the dried mud. The African species are often dug up and brought to Europe in this condition, living dry and curled up in a hollow ball of mud, lined with dry slime from the fish's body, which comfortably breathes air with its lungs while entombed in the chamber it has prepared for itself.

The South American species is found in swamps far up the Paraguay River, and has only recently become well known (although it was the first to be described some sixty years ago) in consequence of special expeditions made by English naturalists in search for them.

The young stages and growth from the egg of all the three kinds of living lung-fish have now been studied and illustrated in special publications by naturalists, who, on account of the great peculiarity and importance of these fish, have travelled into the remote regions they inhabit and have spent months in observing and recording every detail of their structure, habits and growth.

There is no doubt that these lung-fishes (called the "Dipnoi" on account of their two modes of respiration) have survived with

little change from those fishes which in far remote Palaeozoic times actually made the transition from the aquatic gill-bearing, fin-swimming stage of vertebrate ancestry to the terrestrial lung-bearing, leg-crawling stage.

They swallowed air to some purpose, those ancient ancestors of the air-breathing race. They took it into the swim-bladder, where it oxygenated the blood in the swim-bladder's wall, and they expelled it again, charged with a percentage of carbonic acid gas given off by that blood. The blood vessels carrying that purified blood established a connection with the heart, so that purified, oxygenated blood entered it, and was driven before the other blood straight to the brain and eyes.

Meanwhile, the gills were still retained and kept at work as oxygenators and purifiers of the blood. But when the shallow waters in which these fishes lived grew still shallower and annually dried up, leaving the fishes with useless gills, the new air-breathing respiration by means of the swim-bladder (which must henceforth be called "lungs") became of life-saving importance.

Only three kinds of still surviving lung-fishes are precisely in this stage, and one of them—*Ceratodus*—is singularly like a well-known fossil lung-fish of the Old Red Sandstone (Devonian) strata called *Dipterus*. They agree in their scales, their very peculiar fins, with palm-leaf shaped inner skeleton, and their tremendous shearing teeth, one on each side in each jaw above and below. It is an unusual thing to find an ancient transitional form still surviving at the present day.

has been engineered through Wall Street by Thomas F. Ryan, and its securities, though now divided among many subsidiary corporations, are now said to amount to \$1,000,000,000.

Benjamin N. Duke, owns what is considered by many the finest house on Millionaires' Row, on upper Fifth avenue. It rivals that of Senator Clark, in size and is regarded by connoisseurs as even surpassing it in many other respects.

The family possesses a splendid estate at Durham, N. C., and a shooting preserve in Florida. It is at the Durham place that Miss Duke likes to spend most of her time. She is a great lover of open-air sports. She rides and drives a lot of splendid horses. She has a steam yacht of her own. When she came to New York last winter she brought six automobiles of her. The family possesses thirty cars and keeps several of them in the South and more in Europe.

Miss Duke is a rather petite brunette with a great deal of temperament and energy. She sings well and is a clever artist.

Miss Mary Duke has been a great deal abroad, owing to her father's connection with international commerce. She has been presented at King George's court. Several dukes and princes and many lords have sued for her hand, but without success. Her father was understood to be sternly opposed to these foreign butterflies of birth and blazon.

Now she has been won in New York by one of the most picturesque young noblemen who have ever come to this country.

The family to which he belongs is originally Italian, there being at present five branches of the original tree in different parts of Italy, Sicily and Sardinia. The Almanach de Gotha gives the Pignatelli a date at least as far back as A. D. 1102. One authority on European titles says the "Aragon" in the Prince's title comes not from Aragon in Spain but from Aragona in Sicily. However, the immediate family of the Prince has passed a good portion of its time in Spain, and the Prince says he is a Spanish subject. The Pignatelli became princes of the Holy Roman Empire in the seventeenth century, when Ettore Pignatelli, the fourth Prince of Noja, married Giovanna d'Aragona Cortez, who had the title of Princess as hereditary from her father, Diego Tagliavia d'Aragona. Another Ettore, the

Prince Pignatelli d'Aragon Who Will Unite a Noble Name to Tobacco Millions.



ninth in the line, was a grandee of Spain. A Spanish authority on heraldry mentions that the family in Spain is sometimes called "Pignatello y Aragon," but that its members prefer to keep the Italian spelling of the title.

The father of Prince Ludovic is said to have been a very wealthy man, having upward of half a million dollars a year income. He left a large family, and though Prince Ludovic is not the eldest of the children, he got enough from the estate to provide what in many parts of Europe would be considered a good-sized income.

When the Prince first arrived here last Fall he threw himself into the life of our country with remarkable energy. He was thrown out of fast automobiles and off fast horses. He joined in social gaiety at every resort from New York to Palm Beach.

When the cabaret feature began to thrill patrons of the after-theatre restaurants in New York the Prince began to feel in his element. He knew the Abbaye, where some perfectly good Americans go when they are in Paris, and he was for a time one of the most enthusiastic patrons of the local copy.

There was a course of riding on the hood of a taxicab in the wee small hours, and of doing the town with a couple of high flying Englishmen who were over here, and the Prince purchased a high-power automobile, learned to drive it, and then early in January, while taking an outing in

Central Park, tried the tree-extracting act with his teeth. There wasn't much left of the machine, and what could gather together of the Prince they took back to the Ritz-Carlton, where he was making his headquarters. In a few days he was in a surgeon and had him sew it together. In a few days the Prince was running around as cheerful as ever, patches of court-plaster over his face. Then one day he got a notion that Graham-White was ill and woke up several fashionable surgeons at an unearthly hour of the night, with the result that those gentlemen have been busy for him with their very sharpest instruments ever since.

Then suddenly he became another and a better man. He realized that the great game in America was not gambling, or hunting, or aeroplaning, but getting married. This change of heart came about soon after he met Mr. Angier Duke, who expects to inherit a great deal of Duke wealth himself, and has been sent skyrocketing on an automobile against a row of trees, and has had other exciting adventures. Young Duke took a great shine to the Prince and is said to have had a large share in talking about the engagement between his sister and the man.

The engagement was not mentioned in society until Prince had sailed for Europe and could not be questioned about it. It is believed that he will return shortly for a wedding, probably with a few heirlooms and bric-a-brac of the Pignatelli family. The same procedure was followed in the case of the wedding of Miss Mildred Sherman and the Camoys.

When Mr. Duke, Sr., first heard of this proposed marriage he was strongly opposed to it. He had seen a many marriages in his time and most of them had been trouble. This was a new kind, and a novelty in this country, was likely to turn out disastrously. The Prince, however, proved very persuasive, and usually done before. It is understood that when he settled down he will go to work in some American business enterprise. We may yet have to pay more money for our tobacco, cigars and cigarettes in order to reduce the "scutcheon of Pignatelli d'Aragon."

But the suggestion is made that if the Prince goes right way about it, we—at least the gilded youth of us—will cheerfully stand the extra tariff on cigarettes. Let him authorize the manufacture of a special, limited edition of cigarettes bearing the Pignatelli crest and sold by subscription to members of the "best families" in possession of cigarettes thus indorsed accepted as a facile evidence of birth and general fitness. "Tobacco lions in it."